

Serial No. 10/656,871

Attorney Docket No. 26C-024

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A head protecting airbag device comprising an airbag, which, when undeployed, is folded and located at the upper edge of windows inside a vehicle, and the head protecting airbag device is deployable upon inflow of inflation gas to cover an inner side of the windows, the airbag comprising:

a gas admissive portion inflatable by admitting inflation gas while separating an inner side wall and an outer side wall respectively thereof; and

non-admissive portions that admit no inflation gas, wherein:

the non-admissive portions are arranged along the ~~front-rear~~ longitudinal direction of the vehicle;

the gas admissive portion comprises a gas feed passage and an inflatable shielding portion;

the gas feed passage is located along the upper edge of the airbag and extends in the ~~front-rear~~ longitudinal direction of the vehicle;

the inflatable shielding portion is located below the gas feed passage for covering the inner side of the windows upon deployment, the inflatable shielding portion comprises:

a plurality of protection portions juxtaposed along the ~~front-rear~~ longitudinal direction of the vehicle, wherein the protection portions are partitioned from the gas feed passage by the non-admissive portion;

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a plurality of vertical passages vertically disposed in the front and rear of each of the protection portions, the vertical passages being communicated at upper ends with the gas feed passage; and

a communication passage located below the protection portions and extending along a lower edge of the airbag;

each of the protection portions receives inflation gas via the vertical passages, for protecting heads of occupants upon deployment of the airbag;

the communication passage is communicated with the vertical passages such that inflation gas enters the vertical passages and then the communication passage before entering the protection portions;

of the protection portions, at least a foremost protection portion for covering a window at the side of front seat comprises a plurality of vertical inflatable portions juxtaposed along the ~~front-rear~~longitudinal direction of the vehicle, each of the vertical inflatable portions being arranged vertically and being communicated at lower end thereof with the communication passage; and

the protection portions are closed entirely from the gas feed passage by the non-admissive portions between the vertical passages so that the protection portions receive inflation gas only via the vertical passages.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

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4. (Currently amended) A head protecting airbag device comprising an airbag, which, when undeployed, is folded and located at the upper edge of windows inside a vehicle, and the head protecting airbag device is deployable upon inflow of inflation gas to cover an inner side of the windows, the airbag comprising:

a gas admissive portion inflatable by admitting inflation gas while separating an inner side wall and an outer side wall; and

non-admissive portions that admit no inflation gas, wherein:

the non-admissive portions are arranged along the ~~front-rear~~longitudinal direction of the vehicle;

the gas admissive portion comprises a gas feed passage and an inflatable shielding portion;

the gas feed passage is located along the upper edge of the airbag extending in the ~~front-rear~~longitudinal direction of the vehicle;

the inflatable shielding portion is located below the gas feed passage for covering the inner side of the windows upon deployment, the inflatable shielding portion comprises:

a plurality of protection portions juxtaposed along the ~~front-rear~~longitudinal direction of the vehicle, wherein the protection portions are partitioned from the gas feed passage by the non-admissive portion; and

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a plurality of vertical passages vertically disposed in the front and rear of each of the protection portions, the vertical passages being communicated at upper ends with the gas feed passage;

each of the protection portions receive inflation gas via the vertical passages, for protecting heads of occupants upon deployment of the airbag;

each of the protection portions comprises a plurality of transverse inflatable portions juxtaposed in the vertical direction, each of the transverse inflatable portions being disposed along the ~~front-rear~~longitudinal direction of the vehicle and being communicated with the vertical passages;

each transverse inflatable portion has a ~~front-rear~~longitudinal dimension and a vertical dimension, and the ~~front-rear~~longitudinal dimension is greater than the vertical dimension, when the airbag is inflated;

the inflatable shielding portion further comprises vertical inflatable portions vertically disposed next to the vertical passages in the front and rear of the vertical passages; and

the protection portions are closed entirely from the gas feed passage by the non-admissible portions between the vertical passages so that the protection portions receive inflation gas only via the vertical passages.

5. (Currently amended) A head protecting airbag device comprising an airbag, which, when undeployed, is folded and located at the upper edge of windows inside a vehicle, and the

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head protecting airbag device is deployable upon inflow of inflation gas to cover an inner side of the windows, the airbag comprising:

a gas admissive portion inflatable by admitting inflation gas while separating an inner side wall and an outer side wall; and

non-admissive portions that admit no inflation gas, wherein:

the gas admissive portion comprises a gas feed passage and an inflatable shielding portion;

the gas feed passage is located along the upper edge of the airbag extending in the ~~front-rear~~longitudinal direction of the vehicle;

the inflatable shielding portion is located below the gas feed passage for covering the inner side of the windows upon deployment, and the inflatable shielding portion comprises:

a plurality of protection portions juxtaposed along the ~~front-rear~~longitudinal direction of the vehicle, wherein the protection portions are partitioned from the gas feed passage by the non-admissive portion; and

a plurality of vertical passages vertically disposed in the front and rear of each of the protection portions, the vertical passages being communicated at upper ends with the gas feed passage;

each of the protection portions receive inflation gas via the vertical passages, for protecting heads of occupants upon deployment of the airbag;

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a plurality of spottedly arranged non-admissive portions are formed in the protection portions, thereby forming trifurcated inflation tops between the spottedly arranged non-admissive portions;

the spottedly arranged non-admissive portions are arranged to define a plurality of parallel lines that extend along the ~~front-rear~~longitudinal direction of the vehicle;

the spottedly arranged non-admissive portions of one of the parallel lines are located between the spottedly arranged non-admissive portions of an adjacent one of the parallel lines;

the inflatable shielding portion further comprises vertical inflatable portions vertically disposed next to the vertical passages in the front and rear of the vertical passages; and

the protection portions are closed entirely from the gas feed passage by the non-admissive portions between the vertical passages so that the protection portions receive inflation gas only via the vertical passages.

6. (Currently amended) A head protecting airbag device comprising: an airbag, which, when undeployed, is located at the upper edge of windows inside a vehicle, the head protecting airbag device being deployable upon inflow of inflation gas; and an inflator for supplying inflation gas to the airbag, wherein the airbag comprises a gas admissive portion inflatable upon inflow of inflation gas, the gas admissive portion comprising:

a window-ward shielding portion for covering an inner side of the windows; and

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a roof-ward shielding portion for covering an inner side of a body-ward member in a roof side rail located above the windows, respectively upon deployment, wherein:

the window-ward shielding portion is positioned upstream of the roof-ward shielding portion in the flow of inflation gas;

the inflator is located in the upper edge of the windows;

the airbag ~~comprises~~ comprises:

a gas feed passage for delivering inflation gas to the window-ward shielding portion and the roof-ward shielding portion, and the gas feed passage extends in a longitudinal direction of the vehicle between the window-ward shielding portion and the roof-ward shielding portion; and

a joint port located at the upper edge of the windows so as to be connected to the inflator; and

the roof-ward shielding portion comprises a cover portion for covering an inner side of the inflator upon deployment of the airbag, wherein the cover portion covers the inner side of the inflator entirely in the ~~front-rear~~ longitudinal direction and the up-~~down~~ vertical direction of the vehicle.

7. (Previously presented) The head protecting airbag device according to Claim 6, wherein:

the airbag further comprises a plurality of mounting portions at the upper edge of the window-ward shielding portion for securing the airbag to the body-ward member in the upper edge of the windows; and

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the mounting portions are disposed in the area of the roof-ward shielding portion, and have slits in the upper periphery thereof.

8. (Canceled)

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